

# The Broad Ax

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

Vol. XX.

CHICAGO, MARCH 6, 1915

No. 24

## The Passing of Mayor Carter H. Harrison or the "Man of Destiny" Below the Political Horizon. Four Years Passed Away Before He Was Successfully Caught or Captured In The Broad Ax Coon Trap

IN 1911 AGAINST THE SOLEMN PROTEST OF JULIUS F. TAYLOR WHO HEADED A DELEGATION OF COLORED CITIZENS, THE PRESENT MAYOR OF CHICAGO APPOINTED A COLORED GAMBLER TO A POSITION IN THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AT THE BEHEST OF THE HON. BARNEY J. GROGAN, WHO LATER ON TURNED AGAINST HIM AND ASSISTED TO DEVOUR HIM AND HIS OLD FEDORA HAT AT THE LATE PRIMARIES.

AT HIS LAST ELECTION IN 1911 THE EDITOR OF THIS PAPER SPENT THE BEST PART OF THREE WEEKS OF HIS TIME IN ASSISTING MR. S. A. T. WATKINS TO DIRECT HIS CAMPAIGN FOR ELECTION AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE—HE ALSO HEADED THE DELEGATION URGING MAYOR HARRISON TO SELECT MR. WATKINS AS ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL OF CHICAGO.

THEN AFTER ACCOMPLISHING THAT FEAT, MAYOR HARRISON FAILED TO KEEP HIS WORD AND FED THE WRITER ON COLD SOUP AND FALSE PROMISES WHICH WAS THE LAST STRAW THAT BROKE THE CAMEL'S BACK.

THE GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD WHICH BEARDED HON. OSCAR DEPRIEST AS A BIG DEMOCRAT DOUBLE CROSSER AND FAKER WAS UNABLE TO DEFEAT HIM IN HIS RACE FOR NOMINATION FOR ALDERMAN OF THE SECOND WARD.

The passing of the Hon. Carter H. Harrison or the "man of destiny" below the political horizon will always form an interesting chapter in the history of Chicago, and right at the outset with much pleasure we desire to state that four years passed on into eternity before he was successfully caught or captured in The Broad Ax coon trap which never fails to land those who attempt to double cross or make false promises to its editor.

On numerous occasions during the past four years many people, both White and Colored, wanted to know from our own lips what was the real trouble between Mayor Carter H. Harrison and himself. As briefly as possible we will honestly endeavor to relate the most important incidents leading on up to the final parting of the way between us.

Prior to and shortly after the primaries in 1911 William H. Clark, Dr. D. H. Anderson, John H. Coleman, S. A. T. Watkins and Julius F. Taylor held several long conferences with Mayor Harrison and the upshot of those conferences was that he was very anxious to have the men mentioned above to induce as many of the Colored voters as possible to fall in line for him; that if they could accomplish that object for him and that in case he was successful and was elected mayor of Chicago for the fifth time that he would gratefully remember each and every one of them to his last days on this earth, or words of the same purport.

At that time Mr. S. A. T. Watkins was selected chairman of the committee of Colored men or citizens who were friendly to Mayor Harrison and it was owing to the effective work performed among the Colored voters residing in the first, second, third, fourth and thirtieth wards that saved the day for him and made it possible for him to win the nomination over the Hon. Edward F. Dunne and Andrew J. Graham. Mr. Harrison and his main supporters seemed very much pleased with the way the Colored voters had stood by him, and he gave all the before mentioned men full credit for their good work and devotion to him.

Each day for three weeks prior to his election, without receiving one dollar for our services, we spent two or three hours of our valuable time at the Colored headquarters in the Briggs House and assisted Mr. Watkins to direct his campaign for election among the Colored people, and without any degree of boasting we can truthfully say that Mr. Watkins made no important move in that direction without first consulting us.

One week before the election that spring we made all arrangements to

hold a mass meeting in the interest of Mayor Harrison at the old skating rink, 53d and State streets, presiding over the meeting and paid three dollars out of our own pocket to the two Colored men who distributed the hand bills announcing the meeting, and on the day of election we hustled around in the 30th precinct of the 30th ward and assisted to roll up a majority in it for him.

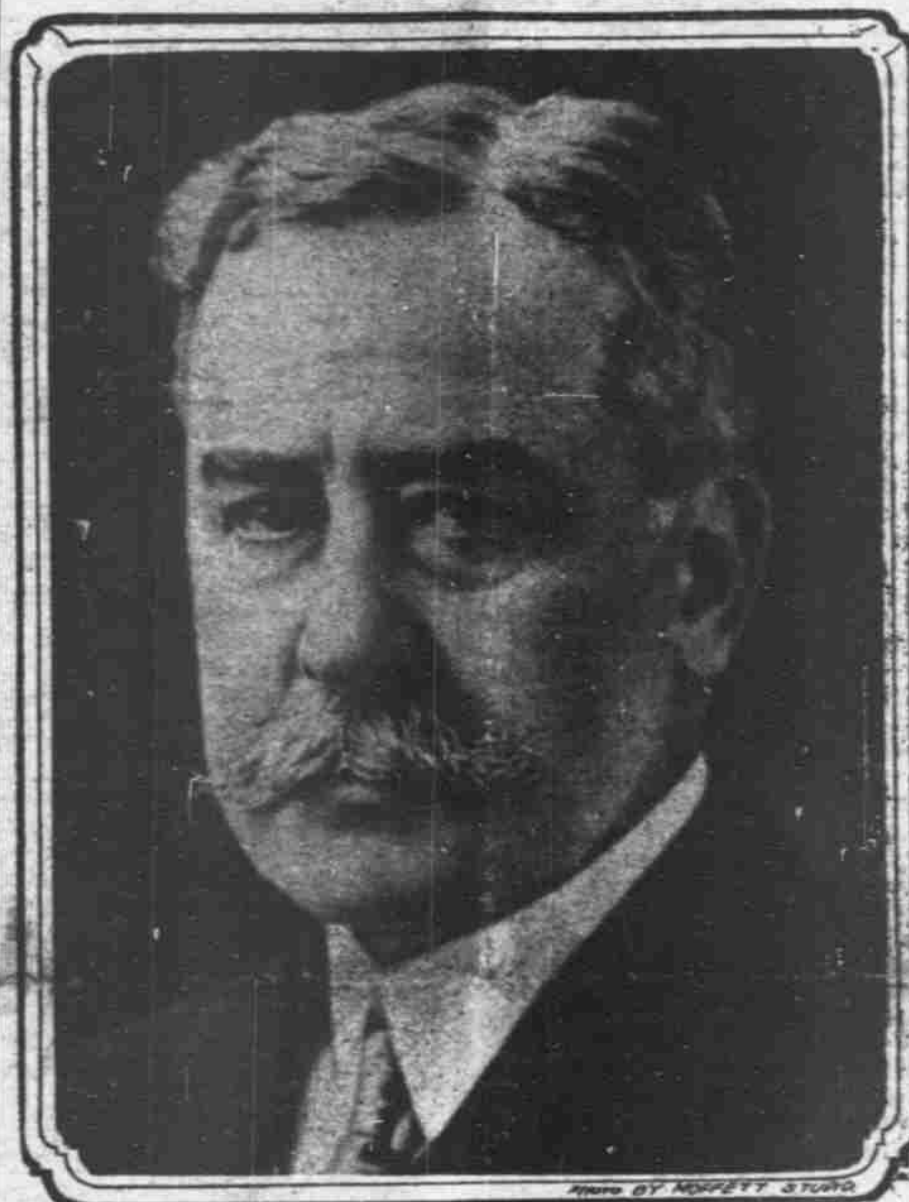
Shortly after his election we had the honor of heading the delegation which called on him to urge him to select Mr. S. A. T. Watkins as assistant corporation counsel of Chicago.

Just about one week after he had resumed his duties as mayor of Chicago we called on him and he professed to be very glad to see us; he went on to say that Alderman Peter Reinberg and Congressman A. J. Sabath, who had charge of his campaign, "had already informed him of the good work which had been accomplished for him by the writer individually as well as through the columns of The Broad Ax; that all we had to do was to look around and pick out just what we wanted and then let him know and that he would cheerfully do the rest."

At that point in our conversation with him we very politely thanked him for his kindness in that respect and in withdrawing from his presence we felt at peace with all the world.

About ten days from that time we made our second call on Mayor Harrison and in accordance with his request we let him know just what position we wanted. He looked at us for a few moments, then he informed us that all of those positions had been filled—that he had no place where we could fit in, as there were more than forty positions of the kind which we sought to be filled. We arrived at the conclusion without much figuring that he wanted to hold or reserve all investigations in the city attorney's office and in the other departments for his choice White friends, and time has proven that we had made no mistake in our deductions in that respect.

Failing to land the position which we had sought, and as there was not the slightest prospect of doing so, we then informed Mayor Harrison that we had only one more request to make of him, and that was to place L. W. Washington in the prosecuting attorney's office—that Mr. Washington had worked very hard for his success at the primaries and at the polls on election day—that he had also delivered many telling speeches in all parts of this city in the interest of his candidacy without receiving one dollar from any one for his splendid services. Mayor Harrison informed us that he would take our recommendation under consideration; that to see him two or three



MAYOR CARTER H. HARRISON

The "man of destiny," who in 1911 appointed a Colored gambler to a position in the city hall against the solemn protest of Julius F. Taylor, who in time was caught in The Broad Ax coon trap.

days from that time in regards to the matter.

In the meantime it was rumored around the city hall that Mayor Harrison intended to appoint a Colored gambler from the west side to that position in the prosecuting attorney's office, at the behest of the Hon. Barney J. Grogan, who was one of his right-hand bowlers at that time, who later on turned against Mayor Harrison and assisted to devour him alive and his fedora hat at the late primaries.

On learning that information the writer headed the delegation which called on Mayor Harrison to protest against the appointment of the Colored gambler to the position in question, informing the mayor that he did not represent the better class of Colored people who had loyally supported him.

He paid no attention to our solemn protest and the next day after our last visit to his office the Colored gambler was appointed to the position. Later on, after he had been arrested for conducting a gambling house, Mayor Harrison was forced to remove him from office and he gave his position to a White gentleman.

During the late primary contest Mayor Harrison and his committee selected Mr. L. A. Newby and the Hon. Thomas Wallace Swann to boss or handle the Colored people for him, but not having The Broad Ax behind him or them, they made a mighty poor showing among the Colored voters in this city.

In view of all the foregoing facts it does seem that Mayor Harrison has been amply punished for making false promises to the writer shortly after his election in 1911.

The greatest weekly newspaper in the world, whose editor wanted to shake Hon. Oscar DePriest down for five hundred dollars and after being unable to do so it turned over heaven and the other hot place in its desperate effort to defeat him at the primaries.

In its issue of Saturday, February 20, it branded Mr. DePriest as "a double crosser, a faker and a big democrat," but with the aid of The Broad Ax which gallantly fought for him single handed and alone and which in the final round-up saved the day for him, enabling him to put the greatest weekly newspaper in the world in the clear, which proved far beyond a reasonable doubt that its shallow-minded readers were not influenced one way or the other by its frothing at the mouth against Mr. DePriest.

### HOWARD GETS NEAT SUM.

New York Congressmen Have Passed Sundry Civil Bill Giving University \$101,000.

Washington.—Largely through the efforts of the Board of Governors of the United Civic League of New York, who wrote Congressmen George W. Loft, Walter M. Chandler and P. J. Dooling, who were largely instrumental in passing the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill, which appropriates \$101,000 for Howard University, the bill was passed Tuesday. John M. Royall, president of the United Civic League, is reported to have written to forty-three senators and representatives. Other organizations comprising the League are the Citizen's Club of Brooklyn and the Committee of One Hundred, Jersey City.

NO JIM CROW LEGISLATION COUNTERMANNED BY THE 63RD CONGRESS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

By a vote of 179 to 99 the House refused to take up the Clark bill for separate street cars in the District of Columbia. This probably disposes of all "Jim Crow" legislation for the present congress.

The Civic League of New York joined in with many others against this measure, for they wrote the New York congressmen, Messrs. Loft, Chandler and Dooling, who answered promptly that when it came up they would vote against it; likewise our own representatives of Illinois and other states.

## Meeting of the City Federation of Colored Women's Clubs at the Herman Baptist Church

### SPECIAL.

By Vera Wesley Green.

The City Federation met at Hermon Baptist church, 1754 Clark street, guests of the Silver Leaf Club. Meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Clara Johnson. Singing, "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Prayer by Mrs. Downs of Evanston, Ill. Roll of officers of City Federation called. Minutes of last meeting read by Mrs. Caldwell, secretary, and approved. Executive board minutes of call meeting were read by secretary of executive board. The minutes of executive board meeting, February 15, were read, with the following recommendations:

1. From the Julia Gaston Club. That the local clubs of the City Federation hold a mother's meeting once a month. Adopted.
2. From Mrs. Olive Lewis. That the Federation write the governor of Georgia, protesting against lynching of Colored women. Amended that they write wherever one occurs. Adopted.
3. Resolution not signed. That all women of the Federation endorse and support Mr. DePriest for alderman.
4. From Mrs. Edward Wright. That the Federation endorse William Hale Thompson for mayor; secretary instructed to notify both of the same.

Eureka Fine Arts Club invited the Federation to be their guest in June at Walter's A. M. E. Zion church.

An invitation from the Standard Literary Society asking that the Federation render a program the second Sunday in April was accepted.

The art exhibit committee reported the amount cleared \$54.26. The report of clubs followed and fifty-four responded.

The president appointed the nominating committee—Mrs. L. Davis, chairman; Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Tyles, Mrs. August and Mrs. Downs. The meeting adjourned for dinner.

The ladies served very nicely. Tables were made attractive by flowers. While the ladies were still at dinner, Mr. Darrow and Mr. Lucas arrived to present the Isaac Bond case. Mrs. Turner opened the meeting so that Mr. Darrow might

speak. He explained the amount of money needed for the defense.

The president of the Federation called the meeting to order about 2:45 p. m. Singing and prayer followed.

Mr. DePriest was introduced and asked the women to assist him in getting every one registered. This they pledged themselves to do.

The secretary's report followed. She reported a balance of \$70.06. The treasurer reported a balance of \$62.67. These reports were turned over to the auditors, Mrs. Lewis chairman, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Reed. The report of the city organizer, Miss B. Forston, was read. Seven new clubs had been brought in during the past year. The president made her annual report. She said the Federation was in its tenth year of existence and had gained steadily since the beginning. She urged that all clubs do their duty financially and socially for the visitors when the state convention meets, then thanking for the assistance given her during her term of office, she requested the same cordial support for her successor. She was then presented with one-half dozen hand-painted plates as a token of remembrance.

Report of nomination committee brought in and read by Mrs. August. After much nominating and declining the following officers for the next twelve months were elected: President, Mrs. Jessie Johnson; first vice-president, Mrs. Maitha Walton; second vice-president, Mrs. Downs of Evanston; recording secretary, Mrs. Caldwell; assistant, Mrs. Robinson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Luella Young; treasurer, Mrs. Marie Mitchell; chairman executive board, Mrs. Stewart; vice-chairman, Mrs. Olive Lewis; secretary of executive board, Mrs. Zuella Williams; organizer, Miss Bettie Fortson; editor, Mrs. Blanche Walter.

The installation followed, performed by Mrs. Elizabeth L. Davis. The Federation then adjourned to meet the first Monday in June at Zion church, 38th and Dearborn streets, at ten o'clock sharp.

dler and Dooling, who answered promptly that when it came up they would vote against it; likewise our own representatives of Illinois and other states.

To you, the faithful 179, the Negro citizenship express their thanks for your humanity and the expression of

DANIEL J. MASON SELECTED MESSENGER FOR THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Springfield, Ill., Mar. 3. (Special Telegram)

Julius F. Taylor, 5027 Federal St. Secured today great recognition for the race in the organization of the House. Daniel J. Mason was nominated and elected as the speaker's messenger for the House of Representatives.

Major Robt. E. Jackson.

Our highly esteemed friend, Mr. Jackson, must be given the credit for always having his weather eye open in an effort to advance the best interest of both his White and Colored brother.—Editor.

DR. M. J. BROWN FAVORS THE ELECTION OF HON. OSCAR DEPRIEST AS ALDERMAN OF THE SECOND WARD.

Dr. M. J. Brown, 3502 S. State St., who worked night and day to bring about the nomination of Captain Louis B. Anderson for alderman of the second ward, now favors the election of Hon. Oscar DePriest, as he honorably won the nomination at the late primaries.

Dr. Brown urges all of his friends to rally to his support on election day, Tuesday, April 6th.